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WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT, KENT



ANNUAL REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR, 1961



WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT, KENT

Annual Reports of the Medical Officer of Health and
Senior Public Health Inspector for the Year 1961

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1961.

Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year Home Population was 10,700 which was an increase of 200 over that of the previous year.

Live Births and Birth Rate

The number of live births was 158 which was an increase of three over that of the previous year and the crude birth rate was accordingly 14.77; this becomes 15.51 after adjustment by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor which is computed from a population standardised for age and sex distribution and was lower than that of 17.4 for England and Wales.

Stillbirths and Rate

Two stillbirths were registered and the rate of 12.50 per 1,000 total (live and still) births compares favourably with that of 18.7 for England and Wales which has remained more or less stationary for thirty years.

Infant Deaths and Mortality Rate

Two infant deaths were registered due to:-

1. Prematurity (3 weeks)
2. Acute Tracheo-Bronchitis

The infantile mortality rate was accordingly 12.66 which also compares favourably with that of 21.4 for England and Wales.

The hard core of causes of Perinatal Mortality (i.e. stillbirths and infant deaths under one week of age) are prematurity, asphyxia and atelectasis, birth injuries and congenital malformations and the chief maternal factor is toxæmia of pregnancy.

Maternal Deaths and Mortality Rate

This rate was nil, as there were no maternal deaths due to Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion and is a reflection of the high standard of modern obstetric practice.

Total Deaths and Death Rate

The total number of deaths from all causes was 183 (82 M. 101 F.) and the crude death rate was 17.10; this high rate was due to the naturally higher mortality in Hothfield Hospital which accommodates chronic sick patients and from which deaths are assigned to the District when patients have been resident for more than six months. The Registrar General's Comparability Factor which is computed from a population standardised for age and sex distribution takes this into account and the adjusted rate was 11.63 which was lower than that of 12.0 for England and Wales.

The majority of the deaths were from natural causes amongst the aged, namely Heart and Circulatory Disease and Vascular lesions of the Nervous System of which there were 110 out of the total of 183 deaths.

Coronary Thrombosis was the cause of 33 (20 M. 13 F.) deaths. The percentages of deaths in the following age groups were approximately 12% between 51 and 60 years, 21% between 61 and 70 years, 40% between 71 and 80 years, 21% between 81 and 90 years, 6% over 90 years. The highest percentage of deaths was in the 71 - 80 age group and it is probable that the ageing processes were a more important factor than smoking.

Cancer, as invariably in previous years, was the second highest cause of deaths, of which there were 30. Having regard to the insidious onset and progress of the disease, the most common factor associated with late diagnosis is delay by elderly people in seeking medical advice when the disease has become too advanced for other than palliative treatment.

Cancer of the Lung caused 12 (7 M. 5 F.) deaths. The mortality from Cancer of this site is higher than Cancer of sites which are more accessible to surgical and radiological treatment. The number of deaths in the following age groups were: 1 between 41 and 50 years, 3 between 51 and 60 years, 3 between 61 and 70 years, and 5 between 71 and 80 years.

The other causes of death were miscellaneous and there was no death due to the Infectious Diseases.

Infection Diseases

A new era has been reached in the control and prevention of the Infectious Diseases and those caused by bacteria can be successfully treated by the Sulpha drugs or Antibiotics; for example Diphtheria immunisation and Poliomyelitis vaccination have unequivocally proved their value and it is probable that Whooping Cough vaccination, when a sufficient number of children has been vaccinated, will prevent outbreaks of this distressful and often dangerous children's disease.

Measles

Twenty-two cases were notified. Outbreaks of this disease occur, usually every second year, when a sufficient number of children has aggregated, as the virus is always present amongst children. It is, however, only serious when its complications supervene, namely Broncho-pneumonia, Acute Otitis Media and Acute Encephalitis, which occasionally occur in that order of frequency during epidemics.

Whooping Cough

Only ten cases were notified. It is expected that the number of cases notified in future years will be in inverse proportion to the increasing numbers of children being vaccinated at the Child Welfare Centres and by their family Practitioners. If so, this will represent another notable achievement of medical science against a disease which has caused innumerable deaths and lung damage amongst children.

Scarlet Fever

Four sporadic cases were notified. In its present phase, this is a mild illness and its more serious complications, namely Carditis, Acute Suppurative Otitis Media and Acute Nephritis are now comparatively rare, the latter being most likely to occur.

Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia

Four cases of this illness were notified and altogether there were eleven deaths from primary and secondary Pneumonias, the latter not being notifiable.

No other notifiable Infectious Diseases occurred within the District during the year.

Tuberculosis

Only one new case of Respiratory Tuberculosis was notified, the patient having been in the 65+ age group and it is probable that he had been a latent case for many years.

It is gratifying to record that no cases occurred in the adolescent age group, which prior to circa 1950 contained the highest number of notifications. B.C.G. vaccination which is offered to School Leavers is a valuable contributory preventive factor.

There were no cases of non-Respiratory or Bovine Tuberculosis which is a general index of the safety of the milk and meat supplies to the District.

Also, there were no deaths which may be regarded as a reflection of the efficacy of modern treatment.

In conclusion, it may be stated that the Public Health of the District was satisfactory throughout the year and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your interest in the work of the Department and my colleagues on the staff for their co-operation and efficiency.


I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. MARSHALL M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Central Public Health Office,
14, Church Road,
Ashford, Kent.

Tel: No: Ashford 1485



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STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

FOR 1961

Area:- 39,453 acres.

Registrar-General's Estimate of:-

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| The Resident Population | ... | ... | ... | 10,700 |
| Number of Inhabited Houses According to the Rate Book | ... | ... | ... | 3,565 |
| Rateable Value | ... | ... | ... | £106,721 |
| Sum Represented by a Penny Rate | ... | ... | ... | £410 |

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

West Ashford Rural District is predominantly agricultural in character - there are only a few light industries. The Council has been a progressive Housing Authority, having built 722 post-war houses and altogether own 814 houses. Generally social conditions are satisfactory.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

| | <u>Total</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> | | <u>West Ashford</u> <u>Rural</u> <u>District</u> | <u>England</u> <u>and</u> <u>Wales</u> |
|---|--------------|-----------|-----------|--|--|--|
| 1. <u>Live Births</u> | 158 | 82 | 76 | Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population | 14.77 (Adjusted Rate 15.51) | 17.4 |
| (a) Legitimate | 144 | 73 | 71 | | | |
| (b) Illegitimate | 14 | 9 | 5 | | | |
| 2. <u>Stillbirths</u> | 2 | 2 | - | Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births | 12.50 | 18.7 |
| (a) Legitimate | 2 | 2 | - | | | |
| (b) Illegitimate | - | - | - | | | |
| 3. <u>Total live and still births</u> | 160 | 84 | 76 | | | |
| 4. <u>Deaths</u> | 183 | 82 | 101 | Death rate per 1,000 resident population | 17.10 (Adjusted Rate 11.63) | 12.0 |
| 5. <u>Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion</u> | - | - | - | Rate per 1,000 live births | - | Not Available |
| 6. <u>Deaths of Infants Under One Year of Age</u> | 2 | 1 | 1 | Rate per 1,000 live births | 12.66 | 21.4 |
| (a) Legitimate | 2 | 1 | 1 | Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births | 13.89 | |
| (b) Illegitimate | - | - | - | Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births | - | |
| 7. <u>Deaths of Infants Under Four Weeks of Age</u> | 1 | - | 1 | Rate per 1,000 live births | 12.66 | Not Available |
| (a) Legitimate | 1 | - | 1 | | | |
| (b) Illegitimate | - | - | - | | | |
| 8. <u>Illegitimate births per cent of total live births</u> | | | | | 8.93% | |
| 9. Deaths from Cancer (all ages) | | | | | 30 | |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) | | | | | - | |
| Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea | | | | | - | |
| Deaths from Measles | | | | | - | |

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year.

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Measles | ... | ... | ... | 22 |
| Acute Primary or Influenzal Pneumonia | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Scarlet Fever | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Whooping Cough | ... | ... | ... | 10 |

CAUSES OF DEATH IN WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT

DURING 1961

| | | | | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> |
|------------|---|------|-----|--------------|----------------|
| ALL CAUSES | | | | 82 | 101 |
| 1. | Tuberculosis, respiratory | ... | ... | - | - |
| 2. | Tuberculosis, other | ... | ... | - | - |
| 3. | Syphilitic disease | ... | ... | - | - |
| 4. | Diphtheria | ... | ... | - | - |
| 5. | Whooping Cough | ... | ... | - | - |
| 6. | Meningococcal infections | ... | ... | - | - |
| 7. | Acute Poliomyelitis | ... | ... | - | - |
| 8. | Measles | ... | ... | - | - |
| 9. | Other infective and parasitic diseases | ... | ... | - | 1 |
| 10. | Malignant neoplasm, stomach | ... | ... | 3 | 2 |
| 11. | Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus | ... | ... | 7 | 5 |
| 12. | Malignant neoplasm, breast | ... | ... | - | 1 |
| 13. | Malignant neoplasm, uterus | ... | ... | - | 1 |
| 14. | Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms | ... | ... | 5 | 6 |
| 15. | Leukaemia, aleukaemia | ... | ... | - | - |
| 16. | Diabetes | ... | ... | 2 | 1 |
| 17. | Vascular lesions of nervous system | ... | ... | 14 | 24 |
| 18. | Coronary disease, angina | ... | ... | 20 | 13 |
| 19. | Hypertension with heart disease | ... | ... | 1 | 2 |
| 20. | Other heart disease | ... | ... | 11 | 17 |
| 21. | Other circulatory disease | ... | ... | 3 | 5 |
| 22. | Influenza | ... | ... | - | - |
| 23. | Pneumonia | ... | ... | 2 | 9 |
| 24. | Bronchitis | ... | ... | 4 | 8 |
| 25. | Other diseases of respiratory system | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| 26. | Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | ... | ... | - | - |
| 27. | Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea | ... | ... | - | - |
| 28. | Nephritis and nephrosis | ... | ... | 1 | - |
| 29. | Hyperplasia of prostate | ... | ... | 1 | - |
| 30. | Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion | ... | ... | - | - |
| 31. | Congenital malformations | ... | ... | - | 1 |
| 32. | Other defined and ill-defined diseases | ... | ... | 5 | 3 |
| 33. | Motor vehicle accidents | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| 34. | All other accidents | ... | ... | 1 | - |
| 35. | Suicide | ... | ... | - | - |
| 36. | Homicide and operations of war | | ... | - | - |

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality, 1961

| <u>Age Periods</u> | <u>New Cases</u> | | | | <u>Deaths</u> | | | | <u>Total Cases on Register</u> | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|----|------------------------|----|--------------------|----|------------------------|----|--------------------------------|----|------------------------|----|
| | <u>Respiratory</u> | | <u>Non-Respiratory</u> | | <u>Respiratory</u> | | <u>Non-Respiratory</u> | | <u>Respiratory</u> | | <u>Non-Respiratory</u> | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 0 ... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 48 | 49 | 12 | 5 |
| 1 ... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | | |
| 5 ... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | | |
| 15 ... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | | |
| 25 ... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | | |
| 35 ... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | | |
| 45 ... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | | |
| 55 ... | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | | |
| 65 and upwards | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | | |
| Total | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | | | | |

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis of a patient who had not been notified as suffering from this disease.

IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the diphtheria immunisation and whooping cough immunisation figures for 1961 based on the returns submitted to the Ministry of Health.

| Year of Birth | Diphtheria Immunisation (Singly or in combination) | | Whooping Cough Immunisation (Singly or in combination) |
|---------------|---|-------------|---|
| | Primary | Reinforcing | Primary |
| 1961 | 66 | - | 65 |
| 1960 | 70 | 5 | 70 |
| 1959 | 16 | 8 | 14 |
| 1958 | 11 | 5 | 9 |
| 1957 | 5 | 11 | 4 |
| 1952 - 1956 | 20 | 110 | 13 |
| 1947 - 1951 | 2 | 22 | - |
| Total | 190 | 161 | 175 |

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The following table shows the number of injections given in the various priority groups during the year.

| <u>Priority Group</u> | <u>2nd Injections</u> | <u>3rd Injections</u> | <u>4th Injections</u> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1957 - 1961 | 145 | 134 | - |
| 1946 - 1956 | 81 | 64 | - |
| 1943 - 1945 | 10 | 6 | - |
| 1933 - 1942 | 58 | 56 | - |
| 1921 - 1932 | 170 | 247 | - |
| Others | 2 | 11 | - |
| School children under 12 years | - | - | 762 |
| Total | 466 | 518 | 762 |

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

The following table shows the smallpox vaccination figures for 1961 based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

| AGE AT DATE OF VACCINATION | NUMBER VACCINATED | NUMBER RE-VACCINATED |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Under 1 | 96 | - |
| 1 | 7 | - |
| 2 to 4 | 7 | - |
| 5 to 14 | 6 | - |
| 15 or Over | 1 | - |
| Total | 117 | - |

Public Health Department,
2 Elwick Road,
Ashford,
Kent.

To the Chairman and Members of the
West Ashford Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my fifth annual report on the sanitary
circumstances in the rural district for the year ended 31st
December, 1961

STAFF

Senior Public Health Inspector:

Arthur H. Hayes, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., S.R.N.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

R.W. Wright, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. 1.1.61 - 30.4.61
(Part time)

P. Howard, M.A.P.H.I. 1.5.61 - 31.12.61

Clerk:

Miss A. Wells

Rodent Operator:

A. Button

Public Cleansing:

S. Foreman (foreman) and five workmen

T. Fright Part time cleaner at public conveniences.

For the last quarter of the year the five day working
week operated and it has proved satisfactory in operation.

It is still necessary for meat inspection to be carried
out during weekends and in any emergency staff will always
be available.

The appointment of Mr. Howard as full time additional
public health inspector has caused much of the back log of
work to be brought up to date and a more continuous and
regular inspections of food premises, factories and shops.

All aspects of sanitation and environmental hygiene
have received attention. The repair of old but sound pro-
perties has been intensified as also has the eradication of
unfit houses.

The highlight of the year was the opening in October of the modern slaughterhouse at Charing, which replaced the old and overcrowded village property. Already the throughput of carcasses has increased and the inspection and evaluation of carcasses and offal made easier by the better conditions and lighting.

A full years working of the gypsy caravan site has now been completed. It has been visited by Ministry Officials, Members of Parliament, and Members and Officers of Local Councils.

In general the scheme is proving a success which is due to the sympathetic attitude of both councillors and officials. There have been problems, changes in the original plan have had to be made and these in turn have given the dwellers a higher degree of compactness with their goods and chattels around them. Such is the progress of rehabilitation that it is hoped to permanently house two families in the spring of 1962.

Additional legislation during 1961 included (a) Public Health Act, 1961 (b) Housing Act, 1961 (c) Factories Act, 1961 (d) River (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1961.

A summary of the work carried out during the year follows with comments on each subject.

WATER SUPPLY

The main supply of the district is undertaken by the Mid Kent Water Company. Collection is from the chalk hills at Charing by means of artesian wells, stored in high level reservoir tanks and distributed by gravity.

The water is of a hard nature and is satisfactory in both quality and quantity.

Water Samples

| | No. | Satisfactory | Unsatisfactory |
|--|--------|--------------|----------------|
| Raw water (Mid Kent) Chemical-analysis | 3 | 3 | - |
| Treated water (Mid Kent) Chemical-analysis Bacterial examination | 5 6 | 5 6 | - - |
| Private sources piped to dwellings | 1 | 1 | - |

Analyst's report on Mid Kent treated water is as follows.

| <u>Chemical Examination</u> | in parts per million | |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Total solid residue (dried at 180°C) | 260 | |
| Chlorine present as chloride | 23.5 | |
| Ammonia, free | 0.00 | |
| Ammonia, Albuminoid | 0.00 | |
| Nitrate nitrogen | 8.9 | |
| Nitrite nitrogen | none | |
| Oxygen absorbed from a) in 4 hours | 0.05 | |
| permanganate solution b) in 15 mins. | 0.00 | |
| Hardness, as CaCO ₃ - Temporary | 101 | <u>grs/gal.</u> 7.05 |
| Permanent | 73 | 5.1 |
| | 174 | 12.15 |
| Alkalinity, as CaCO ₃ | 101 | |
| Free carbon dioxide, as CO ₂ | 55 | |
| Iron | none | |
| Zinc | none | |
| Other metals | none | |
| Residual chlorine | none | |

Bacteriological Examination

Number of colonies developing per millilitre of water:-

on agar in 2 days at 37°C 0

on agar in 3 days at 22°C 0

Bacteria of indiation enumeration:-

Organisms of the coliform group 0 in 100 ml.

Streptococci 0 in 100 ml.

Cl. welchii 0 in 100 ml.

Remarks

This water is of very good organic purity, attractive in appearance and free from contaminating metals. It is similar in chemical composition to previous samples from the same source.

The bacteriological condition of the raw water is excellent.

As judged by this examination the water is pure and wholesome and suitable for the public supply.

The water in the area is not plumbo-solvent.

If reasonably practicable most extensions to mains are carried out where contaminated waters are found. In all cases householders are advised to boil domestic waters as an interim precaution.

Only two dwellings are serviced by standpipes and these are subject to demolition proceedings.

The following table shows the number of dwelling houses in each parish; those supplied with water from public and private mains and those known to be without a mains supply of any sort. The latter obtain water from springs, wells, or by the storage of rainwater in underground tanks.

| Parish | No. of Houses | Est. Pop. | No. of houses with Piped Supply | | Houses with Other Supplies |
|--------------|---------------|-----------|---------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|
| | | | Public | Private | |
| Bethersden | 387 | 1140 | 379 | - | 8 |
| Charing | 798 | 2370 | 781 | - | 17 |
| Egerton | 262 | 720 | 245 | 12 | 5 |
| Great Chart | 294 | 880 | 277 | 8 | 9 |
| Hothfield | 250 | 730 | 248 | - | 2 |
| Kingsnorth | 313 | 970 | 310 | - | 3 |
| Little Chart | 101 | 310 | 101 | - | - |
| Pluckley | 318 | 930 | 318 | - | - |
| Shadoxhurst | 226 | 610 | 216 | - | 10 |
| Smarden | 345 | 1090 | 339 | - | 6 |
| Westwell | 271 | 980 | 256 | 4 | 11 |
| Totals | 3565 | 10730 | 3470 | 24 | 71 |

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE and SEWAGE DISPOSAL

It is the policy of the Council to submit one scheme for sewage disposal each year to the Minister. The following table shows the villages with main drainage, approved schemes, and proposed schemes. Egerton village is in three separate units and only the main village is sewered.

| Parish | Sewered | Approved Schemes | Proposed Schemes |
|-----------------------------|---------|------------------|------------------|
| Bethersden | 1 | | |
| Charing) Charing Heath) | 1 | 1 | |
| Egerton | 1 | | |
| Great Chart | 1 | | |
| Hothfield | 1 | | |
| Kingsnorth | | | 1 |
| Little Chart | | | 1 |
| Pluckley | | | 1 |
| Shadoxhurst | | | 1 |
| Smarden | 1 | | |
| Westwell | | | 1 |
| Totals | 6 | 1 | 5 |

Owing to the flat country and the nature of the subsoil it is necessary that all village centres be given systems of main drainage. The Architect's department is actively engaged with the preparation of schemes for all villages without a drainage system.. During the year two schemes were completed, Bethersden works were redesigned and Egerton main village scheme modernised.

School Sanitation

In general the schools in the area are satisfactorily provided with toilet facilities and drainage. The one exception is Egerton Primary School.

Public Conveniences

The only public convenience in the district is at Charing. It is sited off the main street and adjacent to the bus stops. It provides a facility to the villagers, visitors and those awaiting transport. It is now well established in the village and damage by hooligans is practically non existent.

Cesspool Emptying

The disposal of cesspool contents is still a problem but with larger sewage disposal works capable of taking a proportion, the need for farm land distribution will lessen.

There has been an increase in the cost of this service by some £400 due in part to the modernisation of old properties by improvement grants, by the overtaxed systems of Council houses and the provision of the gypsy caravan site.

The cesspool emptying has been carried out by the contractor efficiently as is evidenced by the very few complaints originating from the ratepayers.

| | Cesspools Emptied | £ s. d. |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Private 1961 1960 | 1290 1170 | 1954. 8. 0 1774. 0. 0 |
| Council 1961 1960 | 255 123 | 729.13. 6 452. 0. 0 |
| Total 1961 1960 | 1545 1293 | 2684. 1. 6 2226. 0. 0 |

It will be seen from the following figures that the Council's scheme to give properties two emptyings per year is still not being abused.

Cesspools in general register (excluding Council properties and automatic register)

| <u>Total Cesspools</u> | <u>Not Emptied</u> | <u>Emptied Once</u> | <u>Emptied Twice</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1524 | 763 (50%) | 601 (39%) | 160 (11%) |

FOOD and DRUGS ADMINISTRATION

Slaughterhouse Inspections

Number of licensed slaughterhouses 4

Number of licensed slaughtermen 12

100% inspection of meat has been carried out throughout the year.

As stated in the opening remarks a new slaughterhouse was opened at Charing, the premises at Pluckley were modernised and the remaining two closed on 31st December, 1961.

Already the increase of throughput is evident but inspection was made more palatable by reason of the better conditions. I cannot see any lessening of evening or weekend inspection, this will only come about by parliamentary decree regulating slaughtering hours.

Bovine tuberculosis is now practically non existent but cysticercosis bovis (tapeworm in man) is still being discovered in both clean beasts and cows.

The amounts of meat and offal condemned was reduced over the previous year by nearly three quarters of a ton.

| No. | Condemned | Disease | Meat lbs. |
|-------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| 19 | Sheep carcasses | Emaciation and Oedema | 525 |
| 7 | Sheep carcasses | Fevered | 334 |
| . | Sheep carcass | Jaundice | 45 |
| | Sheep carcass | Peritonitis | 62 |
| 3 | Sheep carcasses | Septicaemia | 161 |
| | Sheep flanks | Oedema | 10 |
| 5 | Sheep legs | Injury | 27 |
| | Sheep breast & loin | Injury | 20 |
| | Sheep flank & leg | Inflammation | 17 |
| | Sheep flank & leg | Injury | 10 |
| | Sheep leg | Arthritis | 4 |
| | Cows carcass | Injury & decomposition | 650 |
| | Cows leg | Fracture | 7 |
| | Beasts hind quarter | Non-malignant tumour | 10 |
| | Beasts chuck | Bruising | 30 |
| 4 | Pigs heads | Tuberculosis | 44 |
| | | Edible Offal | 4544 |
| Total | | 2 tn. 18 cwt. 4 lb. | 6500 |

Figures in brackets refer to 1960.

| | Cattle, excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs | Total |
|--|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Number killed and inspected | 899 (730) | 295 (439) | 1007 (1059) | 16028 (12417) | 864 (568) | 19093 (15213) |
| <u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT T.B.</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | - (-) | 1 (2) | - (-) | 31 (48) | - (-) | 32 (50) |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 99 (87) | 86 (114) | 2 (1) | 320 (301) | 35 (12) | 542 (515) |
| % of the num- ber inspected affected with diseases other than T.B. | 11 (12) | 29.5 (25.9) | - (.009) | 2.1 (2.8) | 4 (2.1) | |
| <u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u> | | | | | | |
| Whole carcass condemned | - (-) | - (1) | - (-) | - (-) | - (1) | - (2) |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | - (1) | 1 (1) | - (-) | - (-) | 4 (6) | 5 (8) |
| % of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis | - (.139) | .3 (.48) | - (-) | - (-) | .46 (1.2) | |
| <u>CYSTICERCOSIS</u> | | | | | | |
| Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned | 3 (8) | 1 (1) | - (-) | - (-) | - (-) | 4 (9) |
| Carcasses sub- mitted to treatment by refrigeration | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Generalised and totally condemned | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Knackers Yards (Offensive Trade)

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Number of licences issued | 1 |
| Number of inspections | 5 |

The premises situated at Great Chart are run in a satisfactory manner. There is a regular collection of bones and hides and the Meat Staining Regulations are being obeyed.

Inspection and Supervision of Food Premises

The following table indicates the number of the various types of food premises in the area.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Licensed premises including clubs | 32 |
| Cafes and restaurants | 9 |
| Butchers shops | 10 |
| Grocers and general shops | 39 |
| Confectioners | 5 |
| Food factories | <u>5</u> |
| Total | <u>100</u> |

During the year one hundred and sixty visits of inspection were made to the above premises.

Voluntary Surrender of Foodstuffs

The following quantity of foodstuffs were surrendered as unfit for human consumption.

| | cwt. | qtr. | lb. | ozs. |
|--------------|------|------|-----------|-----------|
| Tinned food | 6. | 1. | 6. | 0 |
| Frozen food | | | 16. | 6 |
| English pork | | | <u>5.</u> | <u>8</u> |
| Total | 6. | 1. | 27. | <u>14</u> |

Sampling by County Sampling Officers

The following details are of samples taken within the rural district and submitted to the Public Analyst. The figures were furnished by the Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measures Department of Kent County Council which is the responsible authority for this purpose.

| <u>Article</u> | <u>No.</u> |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Bitter lemon | 1 |
| Bronchipax extended action tablets | 1 |
| Candied peel | 1 |
| China tea | 1 |
| Cough syrup with vitamin C | 1 |
| Cream | 2 |
| Cut mixed peel | 1 |
| Extra strong vintage apple wine | 1 |
| Fresh coffee | 1 |
| Gin | 2 |
| Marmalade | 1 |
| Meat pie | 1 |
| Mild beer | 1 |
| Milks | 21 |
| Mixed fruit | 1 |
| New soluble aspirin for children | 1 |
| Non-alcoholic orange flavour wine | 1 |
| Pork and goose liver paste | 1 |
| Pure cane granulated sugar | 1 |
| Rum sauce | 1 |
| Smoked oysters | 1 |
| Strawberry jam | 1 |
| Sunny spread | 1 |
| Whisky | <u>1</u> |
| Total | <u><u>46</u></u> |

Summary

| | |
|---------------|----|
| Milks | 21 |
| Drugs | 3 |
| Spirits | 3 |
| Other samples | 19 |

All the above samples were genuine.

Licensed Premises

Thirteen inspections were made to hotels, inns etc. Cellar drainage was modernised at one hotel and a notice was served for the relaying of defective drains at another. Generally the premises were clean and well run. Counter snacks were suitably covered, cellars were clean and glass washing facilities were good. One premises was entirely modernised with hot and cold water to handbasins in both gents. and ladies rooms.

Restaurants and Restaurant Kitchens

Twenty four visits were paid to this class of property. Informal notices were served for replacement of unhygienic kitchen sinks and general redecoration.

Bakehouses

Number of bakehouses

4

Twelve visits were paid during the year. The premises were clean at all times and the regulations were being complied.

MILK SUPPLIERS

Number of registered distributors of milk 12

The milk supplied to the district is all processed and/or bottled in other districts. The inspection of dairies, cowsheds and milking parlours showed no evidence of dirty or slack practices.

During the year two complaints were received alleging presence of foreign bodies in bottled milk. On examination it was found that one bottle contained pieces of cellophane paper and in the other small particles of broken glass which could have come from the rim of the bottle. The wholesaler who bottled the milk was sent a strongly worded warning.

Milk Sampling

| No. of Samples | Bacterial Examination | |
|----------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| | Tuberculosis | Br. Abortis |
| Mixed milk 2 | none | none |

ICE CREAM

Number of registered premises 50

There are no ice cream processing plants in the district. The ice cream sold is of the prepacked and wrapped varieties. The only bulk ice cream broken down is at hotels as part of the meals service.

HOUSING

Much headway was made in the closure and demolition of unfit houses. Twenty properties were represented as unfit for habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable cost.

| | |
|--|----|
| Houses considered under Section 16, Housing Act, 1957 | 20 |
| Houses recommended for demolition | 1 |
| Houses recommended to be closed | 19 |
| Houses demolished | 2 |

Many properties were repaired by owners through the medium of informal notices.

Inspections

The number and character of housing inspections carried out in accordance with housing is as follows:-

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Inspected on complaint | 83 |
| Reinspected on service of notice | 377 |
| Informal notices served | 60 |
| Informal notices complied | 38 |
| Statutory notices served | 1 |
| Statutory notices complied | 1 |
| Dwellings inspected and recorded | 21 |

The following table sets out sanitary work effected and improvements carried out to existing premises.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Ashbins provided | 15 |
| Baths provided | 35 |
| Brickwork repaired | 1 |
| Food stores provided | 27 |
| Hot water systems provided | 37 |
| Inside walls repaired | 1 |
| Roofs repaired | 11 |
| Water supply provided | 7 |
| Windows/sash cords repaired | 3 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| New drains constructed | 21 |
| Inspection chambers constructed | 28 |
| Premises connected to septic tank | 16 |
| Premises connected to sewers | 1 |
| Pail closets demolished | 10 |
| Premises disinfested/disinfected | 42 |
| Inspections of all kinds | 1934 |
| Office interviews | 205 |

Improvement Grants

During the year many applications were received from owners of private and rented properties for grant aid to modernise old but otherwise sound properties. The Council by its far sighted approach to this aspect of housing has preserved many dwellings of historical and architectural interest.

Of the thirty Discretionary Grants completed during the year fifteen were for owner occupied properties and fifteen for rented or tied houses.

The cost of improvements per property averaged £350 or £50 below the Ministry's ceiling figure.

Discretionary Grants

| | |
|--|------------|
| Preliminary grants approved in principle | 32 |
| Grants proceeded with | 35 |
| Grants completed | 30 |
| Total grant aid given | £10525.1.0 |

Standard Grants

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Applications approved | 9 |
| Schemes completed | 9 |
| Total grant aid given | £1019.7.6 |

Council Housing Programme

The Council centred its entire building programme on the provision of Old Peoples' Bungalows. The transfer of elderly people from larger Council houses to these bungalows has enabled tenants of condemned properties and those on the housing list to be given accommodation.

The total number of families rehoused in 1961 were 56.

House Erection

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| By Local Authority | 32 |
| By Private Enterprise | 37 |

RODENT CONTROL

This service is carried out by a full time operator whose time is divided between the statutory duty of survey, sewer treatments and treatments to domestic, business and farm properties.

Owners of business premises and agricultural holdings used the Council's repayment eradication service in increasing numbers. £67.3.6 was recovered from this source.

In conjunction with the Field Officers of the Pest Control section of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, regular treatments to the sewers were carried out. There was a noticeable decrease in the resident rat population in the old sewers.

| | Local Autho- rity | Dwelling Houses | Agricul- tural | All Other (Including Business Premises) |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--|
| Total number of properties in Local Authority's area | 9 | 3565 | 343 | 138 |
| Number of properties inspected as result of notification. | - | 76 | 15 | 10 |
| Number of properties inspected as a result of survey or otherwise | 9 | 31 | 184 | 38 |
| Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by | Rats 8 | 85 | 31 | 4 |
| | Mice - | 11 | 3 | 8 |
| Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority (Completed treatments only) | 8 | 96 | 34 | 12 |
| Total treatments carried out including retreatments | 10 | 116 | 62 | 27 |
| Number of "Block Control" treatments carried out | 8 of 2 2 of 3 1 of 4 | | | |

DISINFECTION and DISINFESTATION

This service was carried out by the rodent operator.

The public generally appreciated the work carried out on their behalf, especially in the eradication of wasps nests. A charge of five shillings was made for this service.

Treatment was by liquids, powders or smoke generator which had as their main ingredients D.D.T. lindane or py-buthrin.

There was a great reduction in the cluster fly problem experienced in 1960.

The following infestations were treated:-

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Fleas | 3 |
| Flies | 1 |
| Wasps | 15 |
| Beetles/Cockroaches | 20 |
| Ants | 3 |

REFUSE COLLECTION and SALVAGE

Refuse and salvage collection is still undertaken by six operatives using two S/D fore and aft tippers.

This labour force only enables a weekly collection in the built up villages and a fortnightly one in the remote areas. More ratepayers are demanding the weekly service. I am of the opinion that at an early a date as possible this should be brought into operation.

To combat the fly nuisance and smell, household refuse should not be left to become putrescent and encourage fly breeding. Although during the summer months a carbolic bin/tip powder is shaken into the bins, this in itself is not sufficient to stop fly infestation.

One tip is in use for the whole area. The centre is on fire and this rapidly reduces the combustible content. Tip-ping is crude and a steep face excludes the covering in by top soil.

The collection of salvageable materials is maintained at a high rate and forms a valuable income to offset the cost of the service. The payment of a bonus over an agreed tonnage gives the workmen an incentive to collect and segregate paper materials, metals and rags. The following table gives the amounts collected and gross income.

The figures show an increase of £100 over 1960.

| | Tons Cwts. | £ . s. d. | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------|------|------------|------|
| Mixed waste papers and cardboard | 195. 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ 181. 15 | 1569. 9. 3 | 1961 | 1402. 7. 9 | 1960 |
| Old metal, rags etc. | 14. 3 | 137. 2. 9 | 1961 | 118. 7. 8 | 1960 |
| Totals | 210. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 1706.12. 0 | 1961 | 1520.15. 5 | 1960 |

CARAVAN SITES

Rural District Council Gypsy Site

This site has had its first full working year and has proved a success. It has been visited by Members and Officials of Local and County Councils, Ministry Representatives and Members of Parliament. There have been alterations to the layout and modification of some planning matters. The day to day running has been in the hands of the Housing Manager with spot inspections by officials of Public Health and Surveyor's Department.

The work of re-education to enable the dwellers to be rehabilitated to a more fixed mode of living and to conform with the hygienic practices which go with it, has gone on unabated. Full co-operation has been received from the local schoolmaster, policeman and Parish Council. The expected damage to farm fences, general pilfering and the worrying of stock by dogs has not taken place.

More Councils are coming round to the fact that these peoples must be integrated into their schemes.

Private Caravan Sites

There are two licensed sites in the rural area. The approved number for each site is thirty.

Visits were paid to the sites to ensure conformation with model standards.

FACTORY ADMINISTRATION

During the inspections it was found that one factory had not provided sanitary conveniences and in another separate accommodation was not provided for the sexes.

Both infringements were dealt with by informal notices.

There is only one outworker employed in the district. The work undertaken is knitting of wearing apparel. The premises were visited twice in the year and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Number of Factories in Register

| | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| Factories (mechanical power) | 37 |
| Factories (no mechanical power) | 6 |

Number of Inspections

| | |
|--|----|
| Factories (mechanical power including bakehouses) | 44 |
| Factories (no mechanical power) | 4 |
| Number of Informal Notices | 3 |

SHOPS ADMINISTRATION

The administration of the Shops Act was carried out while visiting for other duties.

The greater number of shops in the area are managed by owner occupiers and where additional assistants are employed there were no contraventions of the hours of employment for young people.

No shops were noticed to be open beyond the permitted hours.

SWIMMING POOLS

There are no swimming pools in the area open to the general public. There are three pools, one of which is in the grounds of a preparatory school and two in private gardens.

Two samples of water were submitted for bacteriological and analytical examination. Both were satisfactory.

COURT CASES

Court proceedings were constituted under Food and Drugs Act, 1955 section 2 in connection with a nail in a bun. The magistrates found for the Council and inflicted a fine of £30 and costs.

A further submission for infringements of the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations in connection with a poultry business was dismissed by the Court.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

ARTHUR H. HAYES

Senior Public Health Inspector

